

REMARKS

Overview:

In the Office Action under reply, claims 1, 3-10, 12-18, 20, and 23-34 are pending, claims 2, 11, 19, 21, and 22 having been canceled previously. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's recognition that claims 5, 14, and 27-32 are allowable if rewritten so that they do not depend from rejected claims. The claims have been rejections as follows:

- (1) claims 1, 3-10, 12-18, 20, and 23-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as indefinite;
- (2) claims 1, 3, 4, 6-10, 12, 13, 15-18, 20, 23-26, 33, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over US Pat. No. 5,292,585 to Ohnuki et al. ("Ohnuki") in view of US Pat. No. 4,597,882 to Nishimura et al. ("Nishimura").

The rejections are overcome by the amendments made herein.

Claim amendments

With the amendments made herein, claims 1 and 10 have been amended to incorporate the limitation of claims 5 and 14, respectively. Claim 18 has been amended to specify that the alcohol is a halogenated alcohol, consistent with the limitation of claim 27. Claims 1, 9, 10, and 18 have been amended to clarify the Markush language used therein. Claims 3-5, 12-14, 23-26, 33, and 34 have been canceled. Claims 20 and 27 have been amended so as not to depend from canceled claims. No new matter is introduced by these amendments.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 1, 3-10, 12-18, 20, and 23-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as indefinite. The Examiner states that claims 1, 3-5, 9, 10, 12-14, 18, 24, 26, 28, 31, and 33 are rejected for the reasons set forth in the Office Action of 3/21/06 (i.e., that the Markush language used in the claims is improper), and that the remaining claims are rejected for being dependent on a rejected claim. Without wishing to acquiesce in the rejection, but for the sole purpose of speeding prosecution, applicants have amended the claims to conform to the language requested by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-10, 12, 13, 15-18, 20, 23-26, 33, and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Ohnuki in view of Nishimura. The Examiner states that claims 5, 14, and 27-32 are allowable over Ohnuki in view of Nishimura. Without wishing to acquiesce in the rejection, applicants have amended the claims such that claim 1 contains the limitations of claim 5 and claim 10 contains the limitations of claim 14. Furthermore, claim 18 has been amended to state that the alcohol is a halogenated alcohol. With these amendments, the claims conform to the requests of the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the claims of the application are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections, and prompt issuance of a notice of allowance. If the Examiner has any questions concerning this communication, or would like to discuss the application, the art, or other pertinent matters, a telephone call to the undersigned would be welcomed.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


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